



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 930

January Session, 2013



***AN ACT CONCERNING SERVICEMEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT
PROCEEDINGS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) (a) In a family relations
2 matter, as defined in section 46b-1 of the general statutes, any member
3 of the armed forces, as defined in section 27-103 of the general statutes,
4 who is entitled to a stay of proceedings pursuant to the
5 Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 USC App. 501 et seq., as amended
6 from time to time, may, subject to the approval of the court under
7 subsection (b) of this section, elect to proceed with such matter while
8 such member is unavailable to appear in the location in which the
9 family relations matter is brought. Any such member who elects to
10 proceed with such matter may seek relief and provide testimony
11 through videoconferencing conducted over a secure video connection.
12 Such testimony shall be (1) provided under oath, (2) in a manner
13 observable by all parties, and (3) recorded by a qualified court
14 reporter. In any family relations matter where a party who is
15 physically present in the state is permitted to use affidavits to seek
16 temporary relief, such member may submit testimony by affidavit.

17 (b) The court shall permit such member of the armed forces to
18 proceed with such a family relations matter in the manner described in
19 subsection (a) of this section unless, for good cause shown, the

20 opposing party in such matter establishes that the use of the electronic
21 means of presenting testimony would substantially prejudice such
22 party.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	New section
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VA

Joint Favorable Subst. C/R

JUD